00490

1970/05/02

Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET

0 020430Z MAY 70
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 637
INFO RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE 329
BT
S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 698

NODIS/KHMER

REF: STATE 066620

1. WE ARE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH SUGGESTED PRESS HANDLING FOR WHICH MOST APPRECIATIVE.

2. CAMBODIAN MILITARY PRESS BRIEFER QUESTIONED THIS MORNING REGARDING ROLE PLAYED BY DATT. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, IF THIS QUESTION POSED TO DATT OR OTHER MEMBERS OF EMBASSY, WE INTEND TO REPLY THAT DATT ROLE HAS BEEN ONE LARGELY OF MESSENGER AND LIAISON SERVICE SINCE NO PRT NO US PLANES OR PERSONNEL DIRECTLY INVOLVED. IF PRESSED REGARDING REQUESTS FOR WEAPONS, WE SHALL SAY THAT DATT OF COURSE INVOLVED IN TRANSMISSION REQUESTS TO WASHINGTON AND IN OBTAINING INFORMATION REGARDING CAMBODIAN NEEDS, ALL OF WHICH ARE NORMAL ATTACHE FUNCTIONS.

3. ALTHOUGH IT CANNOT LAST, IT APPEARS FIRST NIGHT' TROOP ARRIVAL STILL A SECRET. TROOPS QUARTERED TEMPORARILY IN MID-TOWN SPORTS COMPLEX. GP-4.

RIVES

BT

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority EO 12958
By NARA Date